

## ABSTRACT

A tongue depressor that bears vivid graphical images and/or corporate logos and advertising messages printed directly onto, and covering the entirety of, one or more surfaces using non-toxic, U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved colored inks (i.e., inks comprised of FD&C color dyes), so as to encourage patients' cooperation during a medical practitioner's oral examination. The device comprises a thin, flat non-edible stick with a longitudinal axis made of a nontoxic material such as wood. The stick bears colorful images and/or messages derived from the application of FDA-approved colored inks directly onto one or more of the stick's surfaces by way of screen printing or other printing method.